Chapter 1

Getting Started

Congratulations on your purchase of the AcerNote Light notebook computer. Guaranteed and backed by Acer's world-class support, you can be sure of top-notch performance with your new AcerNote. This chapter guides you through the first few steps on setting up your notebook computer.

1.1 Item Checklist

Carefully unpack the carton and remove the contents. If any of the following items are missing or damaged, contact your dealer immediately.

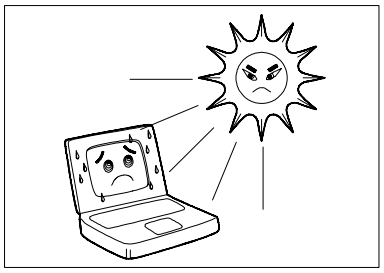
- Notebook computer
- Accessory box
  - AC adapter
  - Battery pack
  - External microphone
  - User's manual
  - Other user documentation
  - System utilities
  - Third-party software and/or documentation

Check for optional items, if any.

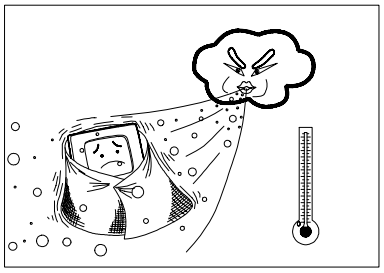
1.2 Taking Care of Your Computer

Your computer will serve you well if you take care of it. This section tells you how to care for the notebook. Also, re-read the important safety instructions at the beginning of this manual.

1.2.1 Notebook

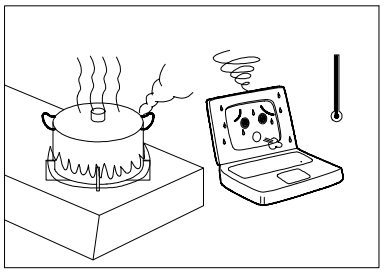


- Do not expose the notebook to direct sunlight. Do not place near sources of heat, such as a radiator.

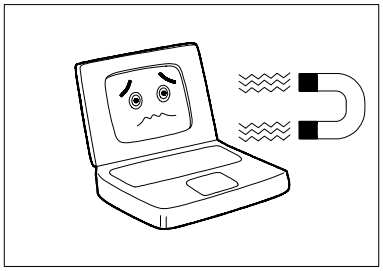


- Do not expose to temperatures below 0ºC (32ºF)

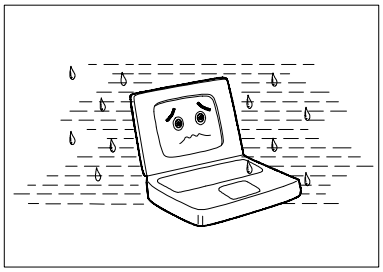
or



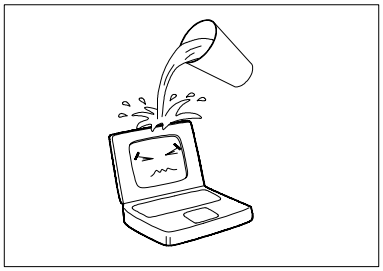
above 50ºC (122ºF).



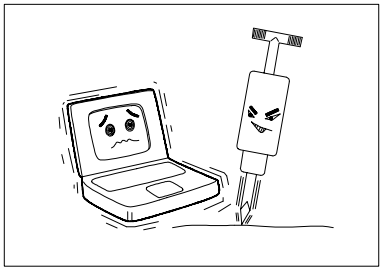
- Do not subject the notebook to magnetic fields.



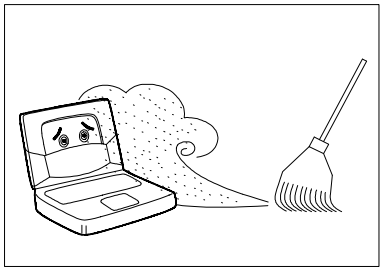
- Do not expose the notebook to rain or moisture.



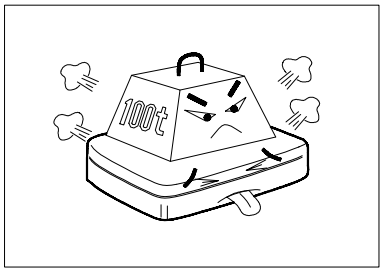
- Do not spill water on the notebook.



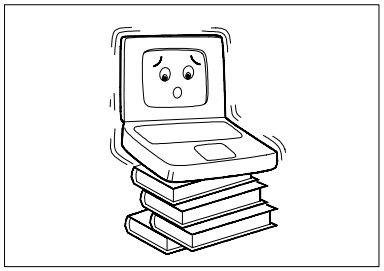
- Do not subject the computer to heavy shock and vibration.



- Do not expose the notebook to dust and dirt.



- Never place objects on top of the notebook to avoid damaging the notebook.



- Never place the notebook on uneven surfaces.

1.2.2 AC Adapter

Here are some ways of taking care of your AC adapter.

- Do not connect the adapter to any other device.
- Do not step on the power cord or place heavy objects on top of it. Carefully route the power cord and any cables away from personal traffic.
- When unplugging the power cord, do not pull on the cord itself but pull on the plug.
- The total ampere ratings of the equipment plugged in should not exceed the ampere rating of the cord if you are using an extension cord. Also, the total current rating of all equipment plugged into a single wall outlet should not exceed the fuse rating.

1.2.3 Battery Pack

Here are some ways of taking care of your battery pack.

- Use only batteries of the same kind as replacements. Turn the power off before removing or replacing batteries.
- Do not tamper with batteries. Keep them away from children.
- Dispose of used batteries according to local regulations. Recycle if at all possible.

1.2.4 Cleaning and Servicing

When cleaning the notebook, follow these steps:

1. Power off the notebook and remove the battery pack.
2. Disconnect the AC adapter.
3. Use a soft cloth moistened with water. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.

Contact your dealer or see your service technician if any of the following occurs:

- Notebook has been dropped or the body has been damaged.
- Liquid has been spilled into the product.
- The notebook does not operate normally.

See section 7.3 for contact information.

1.2.5 Diskettes

Following are some tips on diskette management:

- Always make backup copies of diskettes that contain important data or program files.
- Keep diskettes away from magnetic fields and sources of heat.
- Avoid removing a diskette from a drive when the floppy drive activity light is on.

- Write-protect your diskettes to prevent accidental erasure. To do this, slide the write-protect tab to the write-protect position.

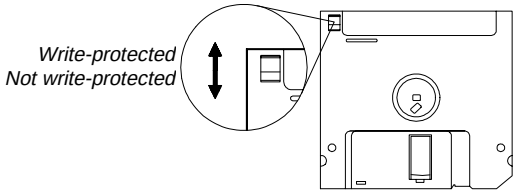
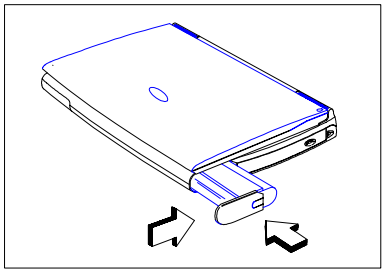


Figure 1-1 Write-protecting a 3.5-inch Diskette

- When you put a label on a 3.5-inch diskette, make sure that the label is properly attached (flat on the surface) and within the labelling area (area with slight surface depression) on the diskette. An improperly attached label may cause a diskette to get stuck in the drive when you are inserting or removing it.

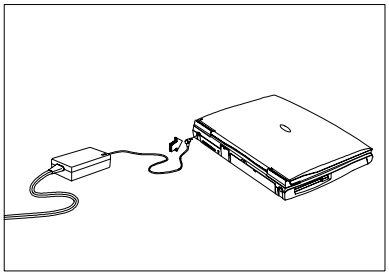
1.3 Connecting the Notebook

After reading through the previous section, you are now ready to experience your new notebook. Connecting the notebook is as easy is 1-2-3.



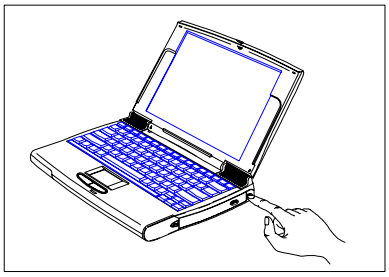
Inserting the Battery Pack

Insert the battery pack into the battery compartment and slide the battery compartment cover in place.



Connecting the AC Adapter

Connect one end of the AC adapter to the DC-in port on the notebook's rear panel and the other end to a properly grounded power outlet.



Turning on the Power

Press the power switch to turn on the power.

The POST (Power On Self-Test) routine executes and Windows 95 begins loading.

1.4 Creating Backup and Startup Diskettes

Entering User Information

When Windows 95 loads for the first time, enter your user information. Have your Windows 95 serial number ready, found in the Windows 95 documentation package.

Creating Backup and Startup Diskettes

If your Windows 95 package contains a Windows 95 CD-ROM, you do not need to create Windows 95 backup diskettes.

Notebook accessories and preloaded software may differ from region to region. Some areas may not offer the notebook backup kit and/or online help — in such cases sections 1.4 and 1.5 may not apply to you.

Windows 95 prompts you to create backup and startup diskettes. Prepare approximately thirty (30) 3½-inch 1.44MB diskettes for backing up Windows 95 and label them accordingly. Labels are included with the Windows 95 documentation package. After you are through labelling the disks, begin the backup process.

Besides these disks, you need to create the notebook backup disk which allows you to boot-up your notebook from the floppy drive and access the CD-ROM drive for Windows 95 and driver re-installation in case of a hard disk crash (when the hard disk is not functioning properly and cannot be accessed) or when your system cannot startup Windows 95. See the backup kit for details.

If you do not wish to perform the backup at this time, you can skip through this step during Windows 95 setup. Access the Create System Disk tool when you wish to do so. However, we suggest you create these disks as soon as possible.

Now may be the perfect time to read through the user's manual and get familiar with the notebook.

1.5 Getting Help Online

This user's manual provides clear and concise information about the notebook, so read it thoroughly. To provide you with help when traveling, the notebook has a comprehensive online help.

Accessing Online Help

Follow these steps to access the online documentation:

1. Press the Windows logo button or Click on the Start button.
2. Select Programs.
3. Click on AcerNote Light.
4. Select Online Help.

The online help is easy to navigate with hypertext and hypergraphics. Clear illustrations help describe notebook operation as well.

Getting Online

If you are connected to the Internet and have World Wide Web access, visit our home page (http://www.acer.com/) and get the latest information about our products.